

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



## Healthy Schools - Healthy Children Conference

March 6, 2014: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

School District of Philadelphia's Education Center - Philadelphia, PA

Jointly organized by EPA Region 3, EPA Headquarters Office, the American Lung Association of the Mid Atlantic and the Philadelphia School District.

### AGENDA

7:45 - 8:30

**Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:30 - 9:00

**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**Tracy Enger**, U.S. *EPA HQ*

**Diana Esher**, *Director, Air Protection Division Director, U.S. EPA Region 3*

**Dr. William R. Hite Jr.**, *Superintendent, Philadelphia School District*

**Deborah P. Brown**, *President and CEO, American Lung Association of the Mid-Atlantic*

**Kevin Stewart**, *Director of Environmental Health, American Lung Association of the Mid-Atlantic*

9:00 - 9:30

## **Keynote**

**Claire Barnett**, *Healthy Schools Network*

Taking Action for Healthy Indoor Environments in Schools is important to providing a healthy learning and working environment. IAQ is a key component of creating and maintaining schools facilities that support the goals and mission of school districts and parents. The Healthy Schools Network will showcase its efforts to educate and create proactive engagement to improve all places of learning.

9:30 – 11:00

## **Plenary Session - Making Your School a Healthy School – The What, Why and the How**

**Tracy Enger**, *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Indoor Environments Division*

Learn why green and healthy schools are important for all students, teachers and staff, how school districts throughout the country have built sustainable, effective, green and healthy schools' practices. Participants will understand the Framework for Effective IAQ Management Programs, how it can be used to develop and sustain comprehensive indoor air quality programs (IAQ), improve IAQ and create healthier indoor environments. This interactive session will enlist attendees to share ideas of how they can start, reenergize and enhance current IAQ programs, how they can work together and support the common goals of improving IAQ. All will learn how they can apply proven and successful strategies to identify and address IAQ issues in their schools.

## **The Virtual School IAQ Walkthrough**

**Dave Blake**, *Northwest Clean Air Agency*

Conducting a school walkthrough is an important way to keep a pulse on the current conditions of school buildings. Participants will learn how to conduct a facility walkthrough designed to prevent IAQ issues to help identify and prioritize solutions to common problems. Participants will also learn how to identify best practices for addressing IAQ issues raised by teachers, staff, and students; how to effectively communicate throughout the issue response and resolution process; tips and techniques on how to properly use common IAQ instruments; and how and when to collect data, interpret it, and effective means to communicate what you've found.

*(Break and 10 minute transfer time)*

Bring your questions to these informative and interactive sessions.

### **Chemicals and Schools - Do They Mix?**

**Kevin Beer**, *Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection*

This session will showcase the Schools Chemical Cleanout Campaign (SC3) past, current and future activities. Schools will learn how they can participate and reduce exposure indoors to chemicals. Specifics on how to conduct an inventory, store, purchase, use and dispose of chemicals will be the focus of this session. Come learn what you need to know about chemical usage in schools and available resources.

### **It's Healthy Being Green**

**Marilyn Black**, *GreenGuard*

This session will provide an overview of green products, why green isn't always green, how you can identify and select green products, third party certification, how products affect students and staff, and what resources are available to help schools.

### **Asthma Management in Schools**

**Dr. Tyra Bryant-Stephens**, *The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*

Over 5 million school-age children - that's 3 students in an average classroom of 30 - have asthma. Asthma is a leading cause of absenteeism, accounting for millions of missed school days each year. Asthma-friendly schools are those that create safe and supportive learning environments for students with asthma and have policies and procedures that allow students to successfully manage their asthma. Learn how your district can help students with asthma stay healthy and be ready to learn by using available resources to develop an asthma management plan. This session will include information about the Community Asthma Prevention Program of Philadelphia, (CAPPS), the home visits, the community asthma outreach and classes.

### **Radon in Schools – An Avoidable Risk, the Myths and Realities**

**Matthew Shields**, *PA Department of Environmental Protection*

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. Come learn about radon in schools, how you can take simple steps to reduce occupant exposures. Learn what levels are safe, how to test your building and the practical aspects of fixing your radon problems and understand how to communicate the issue with your stakeholders and your community. Some examples surrounding radon realities and myths will be discussed. Presenters will briefly showcase some examples of radon found in other structures and give you a regional overview of the radon potential in our area of the country in comparison to other areas. Learn how to find reputable testing/mitigation specialists and what resources and assistance is available to Districts.

### **NIOSH Dampness & Mold Evaluation Tool**

**Michelle Martin**, *National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health*  
**Dr. Ju-Hyeong Park**, *National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health*

Michelle Martin and Dr. Ju-Hyeong Park will provide an overview of the NIOSH Dampness and Mold Assessment Tool, which includes a paper form and software developed for observational assessment of dampness, water damage, mold, and musty odors in classrooms and other areas within schools. The purpose of the tool is to provide information that will help identify problem areas, motivate remediation, and evaluate remediation effectiveness.

### **Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Schools – What’s the Issue?**

**Michelle Niedermeier**, *Pennsylvania Extension Program*

The basics and core components of a true IPM program will be discussed including what’s required in PA. Attendees will learn how to be proactive about pests indoors, why this is an important issue, and how it impacts students and staff’s health, productivity expected Standard of Care. Available guidance and resources will be shared.

11:55 - 12:30

### **Lunch and Networking**

12:30 - 1:15

### **\*Concurrent Sessions I (Sessions Repeat)**

*(Break and 10 minute transfer time)*

1:25 - 2:10

### **\*Concurrent Sessions II**

### **Saving Money, Saving Energy – A Proactive District**

**Fred Remelius**, *Upper Merion School District*

This session will feature examples of how the Upper Merion School district took a proactive approach to save energy and money. Actions including possible processes, procedures, policies and common sense approaches to saving resources will be presented. Key principals that facility managers need to understand to effectively integrate both good IAQ and energy efficiency considerations will also be discussed.

### **Clean, Green and Healthy Schools – Current Activities, Get Assistance, Be Recognized**

**Lori Braunstein**, *U.S. Green Building Council*

A green school is one that creates a healthy environment that is conducive to learning while saving energy, resources and money. By promoting the design and construction of green schools, and by greening the operations and maintenance of existing schools, we can make a tremendous impact on student health, school operational costs and the environment. This session will highlight DVGBC’s Green Schools Campaign, US Green Building Council’s Center for Green Schools, the US Department of Education’s Green Ribbon (GRS) recognition program and the newly created PA Green & Healthy Schools Partnership.

**Fresh Air: Optimal HVAC for Improved Health****Ian Hadden**, *Fanning Howey*

The way a building is designed, constructed, maintained and operated has a profound impact on staff and student success. Here you'll discover guidance and information that will help you improve and maintain good IAQ and understand how they are linked. This session will focus on how IAQ is affected by everyday operations and maintenance.

*(10 minute transfer time)*

2:20 - 3:05

**\*Concurrent Sessions II (Sessions Repeat)***(10 minute transfer time)*

3:15 - 4:00

**Leaving In Action****Tracy Enger**, *U.S. EPA HQ*

Presenters will provide highlights from each of the concurrent sessions, as participants will only attend four out of eight in total. Attendees will be able to reflect on all of the learning and insights gained throughout the day and determine how they can begin to improve their indoor environments.

\*All concurrent sessions' timeframes and conference rooms are TBD. Attendees will select session preferences on the registration form and attend 4 out of 8 total sessions.



The following organizations supported this schools conference:



DELAWARE VALLEY GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

